



GREENSBORO URBAN AREA

Transportation Advisory Committee

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of October 4, 1999
10:30 a.m. - Greensboro, NC

TAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Carolyn Allen, TAC Chair	City of Greensboro
Sandy Carmany	City of Greensboro, City Council
Doug Galyon	NCDOT
Mary Rakestraw	Guilford County Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT

Richard Atkins, TCC Chair	GDOT	Joanne Oerter	NCDOT
Anna Brigman	NCDOT	Paul Koch	DS Atlantic
Jim Elza	Guilford Co. Planning	Vida Covington	GTA
Jim Westmoreland	GDOT	Terry Bellamy	GDOT / GTA
Joanne Bowie	State Representative	Tom Martin	Planning
John Watkins	NCDOT	Tyler Meyer	GDOT
Ken King	GDOT	Veronica Dunlap	GDOT
Ken Fink	Kimley-Horn	Stephen Stansbery	Kubilins Trans Group
Lynise DeVance	FHWA		

I. ACTION ITEMS

Approval of August 25, 1999 Minutes

Mayor Allen thanked Don Vaughan for serving as Acting Chair on the August 25th TAC meeting and commended GDOT for the laminated Urban Loop Interchange May and Project Status Report. Sandy Carmany moved to approve the minutes from the last TAC meeting. Mary Rakestraw seconded the motion, which then carried.

II. BUSINESS ITEMS

MPO Priority Needs List

Tyler Meyer reviewed MPO Priority Needs List development. TCC recommendations, supporting materials, and public comments received on transportation needs will be presented at the October 21 TAC meeting. TAC will then direct the development of an MPO Priority Needs List for further consideration

and approval at the November TAC meeting. Mayor Allen requested a preliminary list be distributed to TAC prior to the October 21st meeting.

Memorandum of Agreement

Meyer stated the MOA will structure the air quality conformity process in North Carolina. A draft MOA has been negotiated through the Interagency Consultation process (involving the seven nonattainment/maintenance MPOs, NCDOT and DAQ, and US FHWA, FTA, and EPA) and reviewed by State attorneys. As the next step, each MPO will consider and adopt a MOA to which that MPO and the state and federal parties are signatories. The MOA will likely be brought for TAC action within two to three months.

III. OTHER ITEMS

Board Member Update

Hurricane Floyd devastated down east, including damage to roads, bridges, and airports. Governor Hunt is working with the Federal government to secure funding to repair the road system. The goal is to receive at least a 90% reimbursement for state system roadwork. Funding to support repair of damaged local roads is also being requested. NCDOT has done excellent work in getting the main roads open. TAC members and others should contact their State representatives to request appropriations to cover the large scale trash pickup responsibility that NCDOT has assumed; otherwise these costs will tap the already short maintenance fund.

The Southern Urban Loop segment from I-85 between Groometown Road and Holden Road to Elm-Eugene Street was approved to let to contract and Regional Road's removal from state maintenance was approved at the September BOT meeting. The Division 7 TIP meeting will be held October 19th at Rockingham County Governmental Center in Wentworth. The MPO Priority Session will serve the MPO needs.

John Watkins will retire November 1st after 40 years with NCDOT. Richard Atkins will retire on November 30th after 31 years with the City of Greensboro. Transportation in the Greensboro Urban Area has benefited enormously from their outstanding service, and they will be missed.

Intelligent Transportation Systems, (ITS) Strategic Plan Update

NCDOT contracted Kimley-Horn & Associates to coordinate the *Statewide ITS Strategic Deployment Plan*. Ken Fink discussed ITS and current planning initiatives. The Triad Regional Summit on ITS will occur on October 12, 1999 in Greensboro. The Summit will involve transportation stakeholders to support *ITS Strategic Deployment Plan* development.

Introduction of Joanne Bowie, NC General Assembly

Mayor Allen welcome Rep. Joanne Bowie to the TAC meeting. Rep. Bowie indicated maintenance as one of her key transportation priorities. Bowie is working to establish a short session of the legislature to address disaster-related issues such as NCDOT's trash pickup funding needs.

Urban Loop Interchange Study Final Report

The *Greensboro Eastern Urban Loop Interchange and Corridor Study (September 1999)*, was developed by the MPO, its partners, and a consultant team. A citizen steering committee guided the study. Paul Koch of DS Atlantic and Steve Stansberry of Kubilins Transportation Group reviewed the study. The study recommends transportation, land use, and aesthetic measures needed to preserve the character of the area (which flanks the US 70 Corridor between Penry Road and Mount Hope Church Road) and the roadway capacity of area facilities; including the Urban Loop interchange. Study recommendations cover area roadway, pedestrian, transit, and rail facilities, streetscapes, and access management measures; such as driveway spacing, shared access, and minimum corner clearances. Additionally, as US 70 Gateway Corridor Overlay District (to be implemented through the Unified Development Ordinance) is proposed.

Battleground Rail-Trail Update

Tyler Meyer reported the feasibility study on the proposed Battleground Rail-Trail is nearing completion. A Public Meeting will be held on October 7th to present the results to the public and to provide the opportunity for public comment on the feasibility study and the project proposal.

Walkable Communities Conference

Meyer stated the Walkable Communities Conference will be held October 27th and 28th in Winston-Salem. A Community Forum will be held in Greensboro on the evening of the 28th. A professional education workshop will be held in Greensboro the morning of the 29th.

Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan

Meyer stated NCDOT is in the early stages of developing a long-range, multi-modal State Transportation Plan. Consultant selection is expected in January 2000. An 18 to 24-month plan development period is expected. MPOs involvement will be sought early on. Doug Galyon reported increasing interest in and commitment to multi-modal transportation would be reflected in the STP. Mayor Allen asked Terry Bellamy about the status of grants for the Multi-Modal Transportation Center. Bellamy reported the grants are moving well with the release of funding authority imminent. Construction should begin by the end of the year.

Highlights from State MPO Conference

Meyer reviewed the recent 7th Annual NC MPO Conference in Raleigh. The Agenda included excellent technical information and distinguished speakers. Key information included the discussions of the Ambient Air Quality Improvement Act of 1999. This bill will have far reaching effects on air quality management in North Carolina. Speakers from the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority and EPA reviewed the air quality problems of the Atlanta Region and what North Carolina might learn from them. Sen. Clodfelter's MPO consolidation bill (withdrawn during the last legislative session) was also discussed. Sen. Clodfelter plans to come to talk with MPOs and area leaders in the Triad, Triangle, and Charlotte to gather information prior to reintroducing the bill in the next legislative session.

Mary Rakestraw moved to adjourn. Sandy Carmany seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.